

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 NEA-09 ISO-00 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00

EB-07 FRB-03 INR-07 NSAE-00 CIEP-01 SP-02 STR-04

TRSE-00 LAB-04 SIL-01 SAM-01 OMB-01 SS-15 NSC-05 L-02

SAJ-01 /082 W

----- 009886

R 022100Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0903

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY COPENGAGEN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USMISSION NATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L ROME 6390

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, EEC, XF, IT

SUBJECT: US/EC CONSULTATION OF THE MIDDLE EAST

1. POLITICAL DIRECTOR DUCCI IN THE COURSE OF A CONVERSATION ABOUT FOREIGN MINISTER RUMOR'S TRIP TO CAIRO MENTIONED THE FACT THAT AT THE RECENT EC POLITICAL MEETING IN DUBLIN THERE WAS INTENSE DISCUSSION OF A POSSIBLE ROLE WHICH THE EC COULD PLAY IN THE PRESENT MIDDLE EAST SITUATION. PREDICTABLY ENOUGH SAID DUCCI, THERE WERE TWO SCHOOLS OF THOUGHT. THE FIRST PREFERRED NOT TO BE INVOLVED SINCE ANY EC ACTIONS MIGHT COMPLICATE US EFFORTS TO ACHIEVE A SETTLEMENT. THE SECOND, OR FRENCH POSITION, WAS TO QUERY WHY THE EC SHOULD DISCUSS THIS MATTER WITH THE UNITED STATES IN ANY EVENT. THE UPSHOT OF THE DIS-  
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CUSSION WAS TO INSTRUCT THE IRISH AMBASSADOR IN WASHINGTON TO

ASK THE US IF IT WISHED TO INFORM THE EC ABOUT ITS FUTURE STRATEGY IN THE MIDDLE EAST WITH A VIEW OF FINDING HOW THE EC MIGHT COOPERATE.

2. DUCCI RECALLED THAT WHEN FONMIN RUMOR WAS IN CAIRO EARLIER THIS WEEK THE EGYPTIANS HAD URGED ITALIANS TO TAKE A MORE ACTIVE ROLE IN THE MIDDLE EAST PARTICULARLY AS A CONSEQUENCE OF THE ITALIAN GOVERNMENT BECOMING PRESIDENT OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY BEGINNING JULY 1. IN EFFECT THE ARABS ARE PRESSING THE EUROPEANS TO TAKE ACTION IN THE ME AND DUCCI WONDERS IF IT WOULD NOT BE USEFUL FOR CONSULTATION WITH US ON THE SUBJECT.

3. IN DUCCI'S VIEW IF THE UNITED STATES WERE TO TAKE THE INITIATIVE WITH THE EC THE MATTER COULD BE PRESENTED IN A FASHION WHICH WOULD NULLIFY ANY FRENCH TENDENCY TO VETO THE DISCUSSION. HE DOES NOT BELIEVE THAT THE FRENCH WOULD WISH TO FIND THEMSELVES AT THIS TIME IN A MINORITY OF ONE AGAINST EIGHT, PARTICULARLY ON THIS ISSUE. BEAUDRY

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## Message Attributes

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**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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